

2005



On this day in 2005, Shane Warne registered his 600th scalp in Test cricket. | Cricket News - Times of India (indiatimes.com)



Cronulla riots: 10-year anniversary rally banned (news.com.au)

IN THE NEWS

Australia remains committed to the War in Afghanistan (as part of the US-led coalition) which commenced in 2001 after the 11 September attacks on the US World Trade Centre. There was no indication that this would be Australia's longest war.

Mark Latham quits as Federal Opposition Leader and walks away from politics. Kim Beazley emerges from the leadership spill as leader of the Labour Party.

Bronwyn Bishop (Australia's longest serving female federal parliamentarian) resigns after becoming embroiled in the "Choppergate" expenses scandal.

Australia becomes the single biggest aid donor to Indonesia, promising \$1 billion to rebuild devastated regions from the 2004 'Boxing Day' tsunami.

Worst bush fires for more than 20 years in South Australia.

The Bali Memorial, commemorating the victims of the 2002 Bali bombings, is officially opened.

The Bali Nine are arrested for drug smuggling in Indonesia and Schapelle Corby is convicted of drug smuggling by an Indonesian court, and sentenced to 20 years in prison.

The Cronulla race riots take place with rioting spreading to greater western suburbs.

The Airbus A380 takes its maiden flight.

2005 was one of the hottest years on record, putting pressure on the government over its climate change policies.

In 2006, Australia celebrated as two miners, Brant Webb and Todd Russell were rescued 14 days after being trapped in the Beaconsfield gold mine collapse.

Australian of the Year is Fiona Wood, a plastic and reconstructive surgeon who pioneered research and technology development in burns medicine.

PRIME MINISTER

* *John Howard* *



Australian
POPULATION
20.32 million

TECHNOLOGY

In 2005, there are 1.1 billion users of the internet.

3G services are being adopted worldwide, kicking off the age of mobile internet and paving the way for the rise of smartphones.

The online video sharing and social media platform YouTube is launched.

Mark Zuckerberg offers to sell Facebook to Myspace.

Microsoft Xbox 360 is released. eBay acquires Skype for \$2.6 billion.

Apple's iPod nano is released.

The first cellphones to pay by swipe at checkout and identify an owner from a snapshot are launched.

Nintendo's Wii is soon to be released.

In finance news ...

Oil prices rise sharply throughout the year caused by trouble in the Middle East.

Keycorp sells its secure transactions business back to Telstra for \$55 million (just a shadow of the \$426 million deal that transferred the business to Keycorp in 2000).

AGL signs up as customer and investor in an ambitious \$5-billion plan for a gas pipeline from PNG to Australia.

The third tranche sale of Telstra shares (T3) is soon to be announced. The largest of the three public releases, it reduces the government's ownership of Telstra to 17%.

Employees are now able to select their superannuation fund for SG contributions.

Transition to Retirement (TTR) Pensions become available, allowing those still in employment to commence a pension whilst working part-time.

Treasurer Costello announces in the Budget, the abolition of the Superannuation Surcharge.

In 2005, super assets are at \$762.9 billion and 90.4% of employed persons are covered by compulsory superannuation.

Reserve Bank of Australia Cash Rate at 5.5%.

Australia's inflation rate at 2.69%.



- IQ Group acquires KI Pacific,
- IQ is two years off announcing the launch of a new learning platform and performance support toolset for the Australian super sector following the acquisition of HPL Group.

In Pop Culture

Star Wars III, Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory films released.

Good Morning Australia finishes a 12-year run on Ten. Host Bert Newton signs with Nine to host the game show *Family Feud*.

The Prayer (Anthony Callea) and *Axel F (Crazy Frog)* are ARIA hits.

In 2005, the entertainer Graham Kennedy dies and in 2006, the contributions of Steve Irwin 'The Crocodile Hunter' and Peter Brock, motor racing legend, are celebrated following their deaths.

SPORT

Australia defeats NZ in the Anzac test. NSW wins State of Origin. Sydney Swans defeats West Coast Eagles to win AFL premiership. West Tigers defeat North Qld Cowboys in NRL Grand Final. Horse Makybe Diva wins Melbourne Cup. Shane Warne becomes first bowler to take 600 Test wickets. Lance Armstrong wins Tour de France, making it his seventh consecutive title. Socceroos just about to qualify for the 2006 FIFA World Cup for the first time since 1974.